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RUEHSR/AMCONSUL STRASBOURG 0198

Friday, 02 October 2009, 13:44
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 STRASBOURG 000023
SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR EUR/ERA AND EUR/WE
EO 12958 DECL: 10/2/2019
TAGS PREL, PHUM, SENV, COE, FR, GG, NO, RS
SUBJECT: COE: NEW SECRETARY GENERAL; RUSSIA, GEORGIA, CLIMATE
CHANGE
REF: STRASBOURG 21 AND PREVIOUS
STRASBOURG 00000023 001.2 OF 002
CLASSIFIED BY: Vincent Carver, CG, Strasbourg, State. REASON: 1.4 (b), (d) This is an action request; Embassy Oslo please see para three.
SUMMARY

11. (U) The Council of Europe's (COE) Parliamentary Assembly (PACE) elected September 29 Thorbjorn Jagland of Norway as the new COE Secretary General. JAGLAND ELECTED SECGEN

12. (U) The election of new COE Secretary General Thorbjorn Jagland (former Norwegian PM and FM and current President of Norway's parliament)
13. (C) The Polish candidate, rather than show solidarity and grace in defeat by attending Jagland's post-election remarks to the PACE, departed without words BUT NO ACTIONS AGAINST MOSCOW

14. (C) The PACE's discussion of the consequences of the war between Russia and Georgia provided harsher and more widespread criticism of Russia
15. (SBU) A separate discussion on "the situation of human rights defenders and the increasing violence in the North Caucasus region of the Russian Federation" was held. U.S. SPEAKER: WORKING WITH THE WORLD ON CLIMATE CHANGE

16. (U) Former White House adviser Kathleen McGinty effectively outlined her views of the Obama Administration's commitment to fighting climate change. STRASBOURG 00000023 002.2 OF 002
poverty" affecting "more than two billion people" using biomass for a variety of applications. Separately, the PACE approved a resolution calling for action on
OTHER ISSUES: OECD, UN REFORM, GORBYS

17. (SBU) OECD Secretary General Gurría briefed members on the OECD's activities to address the financial crisis. PACE passed a largely descriptive resolution on the crisis.